S 3460-3-4

Department of Human Services

State House, Augusta, Maine

Date June 1, 1988

To Users of Population Estimates and Projections

From Dale Welch, Senior Researcher, Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics

Subject Errors in School Data Used to Estimate Population by MCD by Age Group

---

We recently discovered errors in the school enrollment data used to estimate the net migration component of the population estimates for the years 1981-1986. The errors were as follows: (1) The school enrollment file prepared by the Department of Education counted 113 resident students of Portland, who were attending Wynflete School, as residents of Readfield for the 1980 school year, (2) for the years 1981-1984, out-of-state students attending the Kents Hill School, were counted as residents of Readfield. These out-of-state students numbered 155 in 1981, 159 in 1982, 178 in 1983, and 197 in 1984.

Tables 1-4 of the enclosed tables describe the errors and give the amount of adjustment needed to correct for the errors in Readfield, Winthrop and Portland. Table 5 shows adjustments factors for the remaining MCD's in Kennebec and Cumberland counties. The adjustment factor multiplied by the orginal estimated population will produce the correct population estimate. Table 6 shows the amount of adjustment needed to correct for the erroneous school data in each population projection for the years 1987-1996 which was published in May, 1988.

We would like to thank Jeff Herman, planner for the Southern Kennebec Planning and Development Council, who was primarily responsible for the discovery of these errors.

DEW:sc

TABLE 1

ERRONEOUS SCHOOL ENROLLMENT DATA
REPORTED FOR THE TOWN OF READFIELD

YEAR	REPORTED DATA	CORRECTED DATA	DEFINITION OF ERROR
1980	597	484	113 Wynflete Students Miscoded to Readfield
1981	629	474	155 Out of State Kents Hill Students Coded to Readfield
1982	610	451	159 Out of State Kents Hill Students Coded to Readfield
1983	619	441	178 Out of State Kents Hill Students Coded to Readfield
1984	657	460	197 Out of State Kents Hill Students Coded to Readfield
1985	460	460	No Errors
1986	486	486	No Errors

TABLE 2

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE ORIGINAL POPULATION ESTIMATES
FOR READFIELD TO CORRECT FOR THE ABOVE ERRORS

YEAR	TOTAL ADJUSTMENT	AGE GROUP <5	5-17	18-44	45-64	65+
1981	-32	0	- 9	-15	- 6	-2
1982	-41	0	-12	-21	- 6	-2
1983	-60	0	-16	-29	-12	-3
1984	-75	0	-19	-37	-15	-4
1985	84	0	21	41	17	5
1986	79	0	18	40	16	5

TABLE 3

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE ORIGINAL POPULATION ESTIMATES
FOR WINTHROP TO CORRECT FOR THE ABOVE ERRORS

YEAR	TOTAL ADJUSTMENT	AGE GROUP <5	5-17	18-44	45-64	65+
1981	- 93	0	-23	- 43	-20	- 7
1982	-115	0	-30	- 59	-19	- 7
1983	-176	0	-40	- 81	-39	-16
1984	-218	0	-49	-101	-49	-19
1985	240	0	54	112	53	21
1986	227	0	47	109	50	21

TABLE 4

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE ORIGINAL POPULATION ESTIMATES
FOR PORTLAND TO CORRECT FOR THE ABOVE ERRORS

YEAR	TOTAL ADJUSTMENT	AGE GROUP <5	5-17	18-44	45-64	65+
1981	-347	0	-69	-175	-69	-34
1982	-428	0	-83	-221	-83	-41
1983	-435	0	-80	-225	-82	-48
1984	-430	0	-78	-227	-82	-43
1985	-396	0	-73	-208	-73	-42
1986	-394	0	-70	-209	-72	-43

TABLE 5

ADJUSTMENT FACTORS FOR OTHER TOWNS IN KENNEBEC AND CUMBERLAND COUNTIES EXCLUDING READFIELD, WINTHROP AND PORTLAND BY YEAR

YEAR	ADJUSTMENT FACTORS KENNEBEC	CUMBERLAND
1981	1.00121	1.00223
1982	1.00152	1.00272
1983	1.00229	1.00273
1984	1.00283	1.00266
1985	0.99690	1.00241
1986	0.99706	1.00237

TABLE 6

ADJUSTMENTS* TO THE TOTAL POPULATION PROJECTIONS FOR EACH YEAR 1987-1996 TO CORRECT FOR THE ERRONEOUS SCHOOL DATA

PROJECTION YEAR	READFIELD	WINTHROP	PORTLAND	WESTBROOK GORHAM SCARBORO SO.PORTLAND WINDHAM BRUNSWICK	WATERVILLE AUGUSTA
1987	100	250	-400	50	- 50
1988	100	300	-450	50	- 50
1989	150	350	-500	50	- 50
1990	150	350	-600	50	-100
1991	150	400	-650	100	-100
1992	200	450	-700	100	-100
1993	200	500	-800	100	-100
1994	200	500	-850	100	-100
1995	200	500	-900	100	-100
1996	200	600	-950	100	-100

*There would be small negative adjustments (less than 25) to each of the other 26 MCD's in Kennebec County, and small positive adjustments to the other 18 MCD's in Cumberland County. Because of the rounding procedure, very few projections would change.